

Listing of Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions in the application:

1-10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A coolant circuit of a motor vehicle ~~having a coolant flowing therethrough and the motor vehicle having an engine, the coolant circuit comprising:~~

a coolant;

a coolant pump having a coolant outlet;

a retarder having a stator and a central ring, and being selectively connectable to the coolant the coolant being a working medium, the central ring corresponding to a part of a working chamber of the retarder that is arranged in a flow direction of the coolant downstream of a coolant carrying retarder inlet region;

a reversing valve upstream of the retarder;

a bypass section for bypassing the retarder,

wherein the retarder can be connected to and disconnected from the coolant circuit, wherein the coolant pump is upstream of the retarder and provides pumps coolant into the retarder when the retarder is connected to the coolant circuit and pumps coolant past the retarder via the bypass section when the retarder is disconnected from the coolant circuit, and

wherein the coolant outlet of the coolant pump to the central ring of the retarder has a first flow resistance that is measured when the retarder is connected to the coolant circuit and is lower than a second flow resistance to be overcome by the coolant pump when the retarder is disconnected from the coolant circuit.

12. (previously presented) The coolant circuit of claim 11, wherein the coolant comprises water or a water mixture.

13. (currently amended) The coolant circuit of claim 11, wherein the first flow

resistance is between ~~approximately 5% to approximately 30%~~ lower than the second total flow resistance.

14. (currently amended) The coolant circuit of claim 11, wherein the cooling pump, the reversing valve, and the retarder is are arranged in the cooling circuit in the given order in the flow direction one directly after the other when the retarder is connected~~connected in series with the coolant circuit, the coolant pump, and the reversing valve.~~

15. (previously presented) The coolant circuit of claim 11, wherein the retarder is downstream of the engine and the coolant pump is upstream of the engine.

16. (previously presented) The coolant circuit of claim 11, wherein the retarder is upstream of the engine and the coolant pump is downstream of the engine.

17. (previously presented) The coolant circuit of claim 11, wherein the retarder is a secondary retarder.

18. (currently amended) The coolant circuit of claim 11, wherein the reversing valve is constructed as a rotary slide valve comprising: an inlet and two outlets; a cylindrical valve piston rotatable about a longitudinal axis, the cylindrical valve piston comprising an outlet hole being incorporated into the valve piston in a radial direction and which can be aligned in a flush manner with each of the outlets by rotating the valve piston; an inlet hole being incorporated in the valve piston in the radial direction and connected to the outlet hole in a flow carrying manner; wherein the inlet hole has a construction that is conically tapering proceeding radially from the outside surface of the cylindrical valve piston to the toward an inside of the cylindrical valve piston; and wherein the inlet hole has ~~thea~~ radial outer opening surface has a diameter that is enlarged in such a way that there is a constant flow-carrying connection to the inlet, regardless of the alignment of the outlet hole with an outlet.

19. (currently amended) The coolant circuit of claim 11, wherein the ~~retarder further comprises: a working chamber; a stator with~~ has a plurality of holes on an inlet side for introducing at least a portion of the coolant into the working chamber; and a plurality of guide elements, uniformly distributed over a circumference of the stator on the inlet side to provide for the uniform distribution of the at least a portion of the coolant over the stator circumference.

20. (previously presented) The coolant circuit of claim 19, wherein the plurality of guide elements comprise ribs.

21. (currently amended) The coolant circuit of claim ~~19~~11, wherein the stator has a plurality of holes for introducing at least a portion of the working medium into the working chamber, wherein the plurality of holes are conically enlarged-tapered in the flow direction.

22. (currently amended) The coolant circuit of claim ~~19~~11, wherein the stator has a plurality of holes for introducing at least a portion of the working medium into the working chamber, wherein ~~further comprises the plurality of holes are in a plurality of~~ stator blades.

23. (previously presented) The coolant circuit of claim 22, wherein the plurality of holes are located in a predetermined number of the plurality of stator blades.

24. (previously presented) The coolant circuit of claim 23 wherein the plurality of holes are a plurality of parallel holes.

25. (previously presented) The coolant circuit of claim 23 wherein at least one hole is located on each stator blade.

26. (previously presented) The coolant circuit of claim 23 wherein at least one hole

is located on every other stator blade.

27. (canceled)

28. (canceled)